

TO: Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes

I urge you to reject the Senate Bill to include the gray wolf in the list of game animals in Michigan. Under Michigan's current wolf management plan, farmers, landowners, and hunters can already kill wolves that attack their livestock, pets, or hunting dogs. There is no need for a hunting season on wolves. The DNR should maintain its goal of ensuring the long-term survival of Michigan's wolves, until recently classified as an Endangered Species. Despite the delisting, wolves have still not fully recovered and occupy just a small percentage of their historic range. There is no justifiable reason for making wolves a game animal. Hunting wolves disrupts the natural structure of wolf packs, likely to result in more "problem" wolves. Every wolf killed reduces the chance for wildlife watchers to view them in the wild. I speak as an Upper Peninsula native who has seen wild wolves, here in the U.P., and I count those experiences among my life's best.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Winkowski  
270 Flodin Road  
Gwinn, MI 49841  
Phone 906-249-1011